

## SPECIFICATION

Please amend the abstract as follows: --

A method of drilling a borehole into a subsurface earth formation, using a tubular drill string which includes at its lower end a bottom hole assembly comprising a drill bit, a drill steering system, and a surveying system, ~~wherein the~~ The drill string includes a selectively closable passageway for passing an auxiliary tool from a first position interior of the drill string above the bottom hole assembly to a second position. In the second position, wherein at least part of the auxiliary tool is exterior of the drill string below the bottom hole assembly, ~~which passageway can be selectively closed, and which method comprises drilling so as to progress the~~ The drill string is progressed into the earth formation by drilling. When, until a tool operating condition is met; opening the passageway is opened and the; passing an auxiliary tool is passed through the passageway from the first position through the passageway to the second position, where the auxiliary tool is operated and operating the auxiliary tool at the second position. --